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### UM telecommunications uplink means access to the University for people around the state as early as 1988

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# University of Montana

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## MEDIA RELEASE

December 17, 1986

UM TELECOMMUNICATIONS UPLINK MEANS ACCESS TO THE UNIVERSITY  
FOR PEOPLE AROUND THE STATE AS EARLY AS 1988

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana may be able to bring classes, athletic and cultural events, and specialized programs to people around the state via a satellite uplink as early as January, 1988. In a joint plan developed by the University of Montana and Eagle Communications, a satellite uplink transmission facility will be installed at KECI-TV in Missoula and will be directly connected to the Performing Arts and Radio-Television Center on the UM campus.

The earliest projected date for distribution of a university course via the uplink is January, 1988. Courses from UM's MBA program may be the first transmitted.

Users from around the state will also have access to the uplink by way of Eagle Communication's microwave transmission facilities. A program sent via microwave to Missoula can then be transmitted out through the satellite to the desired destination. The transponder time will be available to such users on an hourly basis, at rates yet to be determined.

Eagle Communications and UM have shared planning costs from the beginning. Both Eagle Communications, the parent company to KECI-Missoula, KTVM-Butte and KCFW-Kalispell, and UM have

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